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PROCEEDINGS AND DEBATES OF THE 106th CONGRESS, SECOND SESSION

SENATE—Thursday, February 24, 2000

The Senate met at 11:30 a.m. and was called to order by the President pro tempore [Mr. THURMOND].

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. Today's prayer will be offered by our guest Chaplain, the Rev. Allen Fisher, Presbyterian Church, Fredericksburg, VA. We are pleased to have you with us.

PRAYER

The guest Chaplain, Rev. Allen Fisher, offered the following prayer:

We rejoice to thank and praise You this day, O God our Maker, Creator of the ends of the universe. You are the source of every good and perfect gift, the Fount of every blessing, the Heart of every noble thought, every kind deed, or merciful act.

We thank You today for all those whom we rarely notice, people who share Your care, who reflect Your faithfulness. We thank You for the people who bus our tables, who haul our trash, who clean our offices, who drive our children, who deliver our mail, with little thought for the great issues of our age but with deep gratitude for the abiding gifts You give. For food and drink, heartbeat and breath, laughter and tears, for covenants kept and promises lived in humility and service to others, we praise You, O God of steadfast love.

Remind us, faithful God, that we who lead may also serve after the example of one who came not to be served but to serve. Use the service of our lives and the work of this body for the building up of the common good in this most blessed Nation. Speed us toward the day when "all Your works shall give thanks to You, O Lord, and all Your faithful shall bless You." In the gracious name of the one, holy, righteous, and eternal God, our Creator, Redeemer, and Sustainer, we pray. Amen.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Honorable MIKE CRAPO, a Senator from the State of Idaho, led the Pledge of Allegiance as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Repub-

lic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. GRAMS). The Senator from Kansas is recognized.

Mr. BROWNBACK. I thank the Chair.

SCHEDULE

Mr. BROWNBACK. Mr. President, today the Senate will immediately proceed to a rollcall vote on final passage of H.R. 1883, the Iran Nonproliferation Act of 1999. Following the vote, the Senate will resume consideration of S. 1134, the education savings account legislation. It is hoped that an agreement regarding relevant amendments will be made in order to have a substantive debate on that tax legislation.

In addition, the Senate may consider other legislative or executive items available for action; therefore, Senators can expect further votes this afternoon. As previously announced, there will be no votes on Friday. I thank my colleagues for their attention.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Nevada.

Mr. REID. Mr. President, before the roll is called, I would like to make a comment.

Representative James Garfield, who later became President of the United States, in trying to get a bill through Congress, said in a letter to an adviser:

When the shadow of the Presidential and Congressional election is lifted, we shall, I hope, be in a better temper to legislate.

I hope that we would all keep that in mind. We have congressional elections and we have a Presidential election upcoming. I hope we can work our way through to get to some of the issues we need to be talking about. I hope that the majority would allow us, if we are going to talk about education, to go to an education bill and offer amendments and work our way through the process. The fact that we are in the midst of Presidential primaries and congressional elections coming should not prevent us from going to the things we need to be doing. Education is certainly one of them. I hope we could do

that in a full and fair debate on education.

RESERVATION OF LEADER TIME

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, leadership time is reserved.

IRAN NONPROLIFERATION ACT OF 1999—Resumed

Mr. BROWNBACK. Mr. President, I ask for the yeas and nays on the passage of H.R. 1883.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The yeas and nays have been requested. Is there a sufficient second? There appears to be.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The question is on the engrossment and third reading of the bill.

The bill was ordered to be engrossed for a third reading and was read the third time.

Mr. GORTON. Mr. President, I want to express my ardent support for passage of the Iran Nonproliferation Act. It is very likely that this legislation will pass the Senate by a margin matching or nearing the unanimous 419 to 0 vote in the House of Representatives last September.

The importance of this legislation should not be lost amid the widespread acclamation with which it will be sent to the President. This bill is aimed at controlling the transfer or sale of technology and expertise to Iran, especially from Russia, that will assist in its development of weapons of mass destruction and missiles designed to deliver these weapons.

This is a very real, very well-documented and very serious security concern for the United States and Israel, our nation's most-trusted ally in the Middle East. The Central Intelligence Agency has reported Iran has the capability to launch a missile that will reach Israel, and it is well known that Iran is pursuing development of nuclear, chemical and biological weaponry.

The Iran Nonproliferation Act provides for biannual reports on who

● This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a member of the Senate on the floor.